

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following section headings on amended page 1, after the title and before line 3:

-- BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1) Field of the Invention --

Please insert the following section heading on amended page 1, at line 12:

-- 2) Description of the Prior Art --

Please insert the following section heading on amended page 2, at line 3:

-- SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION --

Please replace the paragraph on amended page 2, beginning at line 4 with the following replacement paragraph:

-- The invention provides for this purpose an apparatus ~~of the type stated in the preamble for~~  
displacing a person from a lateral recumbent position to a sitting position and vice versa,  
characterized in that the engaging means are coupled to force-transmitting means rotatable about  
the substantially horizontal axis, said force-transmitting means being adapted to roll along a  
surface supporting the person. By rolling the device along the supporting surface the horizontal  
axis will be displaced during rotation of the patient, while the sagittal axis of the patient will  
remain at more or less the same position, the latter movement being in accordance with methods  
recommended by physiotherapists to stimulate recovery. By causing the substantially horizontal  
axis to displace during rotation of the engaging means, the engaging means will pass through a  
non-circular path during displacement. Such a (non-circular) curved path can be advantageous in  
enabling displacement of the user in a less fixated, more natural and relatively fluent manner.  
Moreover, the device according to the invention may constructively be relatively simple and  
compact, and therefore relatively inexpensive and easily transportable. An additional advantage  
of the device according to the invention is that re-activation, and hence recovery of the patient  
will be stimulated by using the device, since a (moderate) active attitude of the patient is  
expected and required during sagittal rotation, thereby forcing the patient slightly to use one or  
more muscle groups for a short period of time. The force-transmitting means can be formed for  
instance by a (partly) curved bracket which is adapted to support on the support surface while

rolling along the support surface during rotation of the engaging means about the substantially horizontal axis. A lever effect can thus be realized during displacement of the user. The positioning of the substantially horizontal axis will generally be determined hereby the relative orientation between the support surface and the force-transmitting means, in particular the (partly) curved bracket, and generally lies on the support surface of the person. In another particular preferred embodiment, the force-transmitting means are pivotable about the substantially horizontal axis. Thus, in the case the substantially horizontal axis is formed by a physical shaft, a torque of the substantially horizontal axis can for instance be usefully employed, by means of the force-transmitting means, for the rotation of the engaging means, and thus of the person. --

Please insert the following section heading on amended page 6, before line 1:

-- BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS --

Please insert the following section heading on amended page 6, at line 15:

-- DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS --